(c) Yes Sir. There is at present a proposal to open a Passport Collection Centre at Gulbarga.

(d) A decision has been taken to open Passport Collection Centre at Gulbarga. The Karnataka Govt. have agreed to provide suitable accommodation for housing the Collection Centre. The State Government have been requested to depute some staff for the Centre. The Collection Centre will start functioning as soon as arrangements are in place.

New Project for Space Research

* 653. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ISRO have initiated any new Project for space research with longer range Satellite Launching Vehicles;

(b) if so, whether any new technology has been obtained from foreign countries; and

(c) the period fixed for the completion of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (c) As part of the approved Ninth Plan Programme, studies are in progress for carrying out different types of missions using Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV)/Geo-synchronous Launch Vehicle (GSLV) and increasing the payload capability of our launch vehicles to about 4 tonnes. These studies are under conceptual phase. Typically realisation of such programmes, once started, may take upto 10 years.

(b) No, Sir.

Production percentage of small scale industries

†*654. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment with regard to percentage of production of small scale industries in industrial production of the country;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.